



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Hampshire*

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS**

**LOWELL MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL WEAPONS CONVICTION**

**United States v. Sheldon GRANT**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Nashua Police Chief Timothy Heffernan announced that Sheldon GRANT, DOB 1/15/82, of Lowell, Massachusetts was sentenced on May 3, 2004 of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On January 29, 2004, GRANT, a previously convicted felon, entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Paul J. Barbadoro to an information charging him with being a felon in possession of a firearm in Nashua on June 27, 2003. GRANT was previously convicted in Massachusetts of marijuana distribution and breaking and entering.

At today's sentencing, Judge Barbadoro imposed a sentence of 42 months ( 3 ½ years) imprisonment followed by a 3-year period of supervised release during which GRANT's behavior will be monitored by the U.S. Department of Probation.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "This case exemplifies this Office's commitment to aggressive prosecution of the federal firearms laws as mandated by Attorney General Ashcroft's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" initiative. Keeping firearms out of the hands of convicted felons is one of our main objectives. This office will continue to vigorously enforce the federal firearms laws as we expand the implementation of Project Safe Neighborhoods in the District of New Hampshire."

Project Safe Neighborhoods is a federal program to reduce gun violence in New Hampshire by aggressive investigation and prosecution of firearm offenders, education of the public and training of law enforcement officers about firearms laws. Attorney General John Ashcroft recently called Project Safe Neighborhoods "a revolutionary campaign against gun crime in America."

The prosecution against GRANT, part of the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" (PSN) initiative, resulted from an investigation conducted by the Nashua Police Department. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.